

## 2010

On January 23, Sergeant Timothy D. Peters arrived at the scene of a traffic crash on Missouri Route BB in Laclede County. A passenger car was lying on its side partially submerged in the rain-swollen creek. He immediately entered the swift moving water and assisted a civilian attempting to rescue the driver. When the man came free from the vehicle, all three men were swept away from the car into the middle of the stream by the swift current. The civilian went under water, so Sgt. Peters pulled him up, allowing him to gasp for air. Then, he had to do the same for the driver. Lifting these men above the water caused Sgt. Peters to become submerged. Working together, the three men were able to make their way to shore. The driver recovered from the crash.

On January 24, heavy rain fell in the Troop G area. This caused extreme flooding, which made low water bridges impassable. A sport utility vehicle was swept into the swift water of Bryant Creek in Douglas County. The water, which was over four feet deep and continuing to rise, carried the vehicle approximately 20 feet from the bridge. The responding fire department determined it lacked the resources to make an immediate rescue. Thus, Trooper Justin D. Piccinino secured a rope around his chest and entered the water,



*This display showed the progression from the ink and roller method of fingerprinting people in the early years to the livescan computerized way of capturing fingerprints used today.*



*Colonel Ronald K. Replogle*

which immediately carried him downstream to the vehicle. He secured the driver with the rope and swam downstream to the shore.

Col. Jim F. Keathley retired effective March 1. Governor Jay Nixon appointed Ronald K. “Ron” Replogle the 21st superintendent of the Patrol effective March 1, 2010.

Trooper Dewey K. Heppe accepted a Valor award for his actions on October 31, 2009. Tpr. Heppe was off duty when he saw a two seat, Piper single engine airplane crash during takeoff on a private air strip behind his property. He notified Troop E Headquarters requesting assistance and responded to the scene. Without regard to his own safety, Tpr. Heppe reached into the burning wreckage and pulled the passenger from the aircraft. Flames prevented him from removing the pilot. Unfortunately, neither survived. Tpr. Heppe sustained minor burns on his hands from the fire.

President Barack Obama traveled through portions of Troop B as part of his “White House To Main Street” tour. On April 28, 2010, the president visited POET Bio-refining, which was east of Macon, MO. Over 90 uniformed members from



*President Barak Obama visited Missouri in 2010.*

Troops B, C, F, H, and General Headquarters were part of the president's security detail.

On June 30, in the sunshine on Lake of the Ozarks' Public Beach #2, Governor Jay Nixon signed HB 1868, thus shifting the Missouri State Water Patrol under the Missouri State Highway Patrol. It became known as the Water Patrol Division. There was no reduction in the number of Water Patrol or Highway Patrol officers. The bill went into effect January 1, 2011.

Two recruit classes graduated in 2010. The 91st Recruit Class graduated on July 23. Twenty-seven troopers said the Oath of Office that day. On December 17, an additional 36 troopers graduated in the 92nd Recruit Class.

On April 29, the First Community Bank of Cuba, MO, was robbed by an individual suspected of five other bank robberies. Corporal Kyle D. Wilmont was monitoring traffic north of Cuba when he noticed a driver position his hand as to obstruct the officer's view of his face as he drove past the officer's location. Cpl. Wilmont initiated a traffic stop to identify the driver. While speaking to the driver, Cpl. Wilmont noticed several maps and a paper with handwritten directions near the passenger seat. Based on the driver's statements and information from witnesses at the scene, Cpl. Wilmont placed the man under arrest for robbery. After the arrest, a .357 magnum handgun was found in the console, and the money from the bank robbery was located in a bag in the vehicle's interior.

On Friday, October 15, Sergeant Joseph G. Schuengel, 47, a Patrol pilot, was returning to Spirit of St. Louis Airport after completing an aircraft speed enforcement operation in Jefferson



*Governor Jay Nixon signs HB 1868, thus shifting the Missouri State Water Patrol to the Missouri State Highway Patrol.*

County when the Bell Jet Ranger helicopter he was piloting crashed near the intersection of Clarkson and Kehrs Mill Road, in St. Louis County. Sgt. Schuengel was pronounced dead at the scene. He was survived by his mother and three sisters.

In October, the Patrol launched a new email alert system. The "Sex Offender Community Notification Program" allowed members of the public to sign up for email notifications regarding changes in addresses or work locations of registered sex offenders in their area.

On December 20, a portion of Interstate 44 from Missouri Highway 100 overpass west to the St. Mary's Road overpass in Franklin County became the "Corporal Dennis E. Engelhard Memorial Highway." (EOW December 25, 2009. See page 127.)



*Sergeant Joseph G. Schuengel*

## 2011

The merging of the Water Patrol into the Highway Patrol took effect January 1, with 95 Water Patrol officers taking the Oath of Office for trooper. They began wearing the blue uniform of the Highway Patrol that same day. The new troopers attended one of two Water Patrol transition training sessions immediately after the merge. Along with the 95 officers, seven communications and seven civilian personnel became employees of the Highway Patrol.

On January 27, a subject pled guilty in federal court to his role in a conspiracy to illegally distribute more than \$1 million worth of Oxy-

Contin and Oxycodone. Gaming Division officers Sergeant Jeff T. Fitzgerald and Corporal Brian W. Vernon uncovered the prescription conspiracy at the Isle of Capri Casino in Kansas City, MO, in January 2007.

Trooper Don L. Doza, Trooper Justin D. Piccinino, and Sergeant Timothy D. Peters accepted Valor Awards. Tpr. Doza was recognized for his bravery in extricating a man from his vehicle after a traffic crash as propane tanks on his camper exploded. Tpr. Piccinio was recognized for his heroic rescue of a driver on January 24, 2010. (See page 128.) Sgt. Peters was recognized for his bravery at a traffic crash on January 23, 2010. (See page 128.)

The 93rd Recruit Class graduated June 24, 2011. The 41 new troopers reported to their first assignment on July 11. The 94th Recruit Class graduation took place on December 16. The 30 new troopers reported to their first assignment on January 2, 2012.

Missouri experienced five natural disasters in 2011. In each instance, the Patrol responded immediately, providing manpower and resources to help Missourians recover. An epic snowstorm February 1, brought with it ice, freezing rain, sleet, and 12-30 inches of snow. For the first time



*All Water Patrol officers were sworn in as members of the Highway Patrol and began wearing blue uniforms effective January 1, 2011. Pictured are a few of the members of the newly formed Water Patrol Division. Judge Kenneth M. Hayden, 26th Circuit Court, administered the Oath of Office for trooper to (l to r) Trooper Dustin T. Metzner, Trooper Jason M. Worthley, Trooper Eric L. Mueller, Trooper David F. Echternacht, Corporal Scott M. Lance, Captain Matthew C. Walz, and Trooper Dustin H. Crafton at the Morgan County Courthouse.*

in history, the entire length of Interstate 70 closed for 14 1/2 hours due to the hazardous conditions. Troopers worked 12-hour shifts and their leave days were canceled. Communications employees reported to headquarters with an overnight bag of food and clothing. Members were responsible for highway safety, search and rescue efforts, and traffic control. This detail ran from January 31 through February 5 and included 413 officers.

Thunderstorms on April 19 were the first of many in the Troop E area. By May 2, much of the area had received over 20 inches of rain. Levees collapsed—on their own or were breached by the Army Corps of Engineers. Troopers assisted with evacuations, search and rescue, damage assessments, security patrols and checkpoints, dignitary escorts, and traffic control. A mobile field force of 21 troopers from around the state grew to include 42 troopers and 18 boats. In one instance, troopers rescued six boats of Missouri National Guard personnel when they became stranded. The manpower began to return to regular shifts on May 2, with the detail ending on May 11. The detail included 165 officers.

A tornado hit St. Charles County and St. Louis on April 22. The heavy winds caused significant

*Evidence of the tornado's strength could be seen for miles in Joplin.*



*Sgt. Daniel W. Hinten, Troop G, provides instruction at a daily briefing in Joplin.*

damage at Lambert Airport and the surrounding area. Officers responded to provide security patrols, checkpoints, search and rescue, and damage assessments. The 61 officers were assigned to this special detail until May 1.

On May 22, an EF5 multiple vortex tornado hit Joplin, MO. It reached a maximum width of one mile, rapidly intensified, and tracked eastward across the city, continuing across Interstate 44 into rural portions of Jasper County. This was the deadliest tornado to hit the United States since 1947. Immediately, the Patrol sent 50 troopers to the area, as well as one mobile command and communications vehicle and four communications officers. The total number of employees (statewide) deployed to Joplin would reach 362 members and 89 civilians. In addition to security patrols and checkpoints, troopers went door-to-door searching for people, they attended memorial services and funerals, and they met with countless families. Troopers also handled death investigations, damage assessment, dignitary escort and protection, and were tasked with locating 268 missing people, all of which were accounted for by June 1. It was reported that 162 people died as a result of this tornado. This special detail ended June 26.



In June, flooding in Holt, Atchison, and Buchanan counties led to road closures lasting two to three months. Numerous levees were breached, creating extensive property damage. Fifty-two officers from around the state were assigned to assist during the flooding. They handled security patrols, security checkpoints, search and rescue efforts, damage assessment, and dignitary escort and protection. The special detail ran from June 10 through August 6.

On Wednesday, June 22, a portion of U.S Highway 36, 1.7 miles west of the intersection of Missouri Route O, in Macon County, was dedicated as the "Trooper William Brandt Memorial Highway." (EOW June 12, 1970. See page 44.)

On August 1, Trooper Frederick F. Guthrie Jr., 46, a member of the Patrol's Water Patrol Division, and his Patrol K-9, Reed, were assigned to Missouri River flood duty. They were working in the area of Big Lake on Missouri Highway 118 and Missouri Highway 111 in Holt County, MO. Apparently, they were swept away by swift flood water. On Tuesday, August 2, at approximately 6:25 p.m. K-9 Reed was located in the swift moving flood water approximately 100 yards from where Tpr. Guthrie's patrol truck and boat had been located. On September 28, Colonel Ron Replogle regretfully announced the official death of Tpr. Guthrie. This announcement followed the issuance of Letters of Independent Administration by Platte County



*Trooper Frederick F. Guthrie Jr.*

Associate Circuit Judge James Van Amburg to Tpr. Guthrie's spouse, Mrs. Teresa Guthrie. The Patrol held a memorial service on December 14, 2011. Tpr. Guthrie's body was located on January 12, 2012. He was survived by his wife and three children.

On Thursday, September 29, the portion of U.S. Highway 67 from County Road 422 to U.S.

Highway 60 East/67 South bypass in Butler County, became the "Missouri State Highway Patrol Sergeant David May Memorial Highway." (EOW May 17, 1999. See page 92.)

In September, the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA) presented the Water Patrol Division with its coveted Compass Award. The award recognized the division's leadership, commitment, and sacrifice in assisting NASBLA and the U.S. Coast Guard. These three entities designed, tested, and implemented the first-ever battery of seated, standardized field sobriety tests, thus enhancing boating under the influence enforcement actions across the nation.

On October 19, two teams of employees accepted awards from the Governor Jay Nixon. The Missouri Criminal Justice Modernization Project team accepted a Governor's Award for Quality and Productivity in technology. The Missouri Automated Criminal History Site team earned a Governor's Award for Quality and Productivity in efficiency/process improvement.

On October 21, a ceremony dedicated a portion of Interstate 64 from Boone's Crossing overpass west to the Spirit of St. Louis overpass in St. Louis County the "Highway Patrol Sgt. Joe



*High-speed, straight-line winds pushed over the Troop H radio tower on August 18. It had been a landmark in St. Joseph since the late 1940s.*



*On September 11, 2011, emergency services personnel unfurled the World Trade Center flag in front of St. John's Hospital in Joplin, MO. The flag made stops across the country where anyone who wanted could sew a stitch and help repair it. Joplin was the flag's last stop before returning to New York.*

Schuengel Memorial Highway.” (EOW October 15, 2009. See page 129.)

The Ford Motor Company produced its last Crown Victoria police package vehicles in 2011. The Patrol purchased a small quantity of Chevrolet Caprice and Dodge Charger police vehicles to begin an evaluation process.

The Crime Laboratory Division achieved international accreditation from the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors/ Laboratory Accreditation Board (ASCLD/LAB) on September 8.

Effective October 1, members of the Water Patrol Division were reassigned to the troop in

which they resided and designated marine operations troopers.

## 2012

On March 10, David W. Crank effected a traffic stop on Interstate 55 when he observed a vehicle tailgating and driving aggressively. After noticing the odor of marijuana, he called for assistance. The vehicle's occupants refused to provide identification. After Cpl. J. Shane Stewart arrived, the individuals began behaving in an aggressive manner during questioning. A passenger fired at Cpl. Stewart, who was seriously injured. The officers exchanged gunfire with and killed the shooter. Another occupant was injured. Sgt. Richard J. Sanders was also on the scene and provided life-saving first aid to Cpl. Stewart, who recovered and returned to active duty.

Trooper Kelsey J. Rutledge and Trooper Darwin R. Hukill followed up on a tip by initiating a knock and talk. The result was an investigation yielding stolen property with an estimated value of \$100,000. A follow up investigation closed over 20 theft cases.

Trooper Jim C. Cooksey and Corporal Reid T. Fessler each accepted a Valor Award for their actions in 2011. Tpr. Cooksey was recognized for



*A new weigh station located on Interstate 44 in St. Clair, MO, opened September 12, 2011.*



*Tpr. David W. Crank, Tpr. Jeremy S. Stewart, and Sgt. Richard J. Sanders, all Troop E, stand before the Missouri House of Representatives where they were honored as Outstanding Missourians. (Related to the March 12 traffic stop.)*



*Lt. Erik A. Gottman, Troop B, tackles Sgt. Jeffery C. Creech, Troop B, during a tactical swimming drill.*

his bravery after a vehicle crashed and went into a flooded drainage ditch. He went into the swift moving, deep water to help remove the driver and swim him to shore. Cpl. Fessler was recognized for his brave actions in pulling an unresponsive driver from a burning vehicle. At the same awards ceremony, Sergeant Tim D. Peters accepted a Purple Heart for injuries sustained during a confrontation at a traffic stop on Interstate 44 in 2011.

President Barack Obama returned to Joplin, MO, in May 2012, a year after the deadly EF-5 tornado, to speak to the graduating seniors whose



*President Barack Obama addressed the 2012 graduating class of Joplin High School.*

high school was destroyed. The Patrol assisted the Secret Service with security during the president's visit.

On Sunday, August 26, Corporal Justin S. Johnson and Trooper Benjamin R. Hilliard heard a call for assistance from the Harrison County 9-1-1 dispatcher. A Kia was traveling northbound on Interstate 35 and its accelerator was stuck. The two officers were in the area and responded immediately. What followed was a 65-mile trek up I-35 traveling at speeds well over 100 mph. The troopers stayed with the Kia for the next 34 minutes, well into the

state of Iowa. While managing traffic, the officers were communicating with each other, Harrison County's 9-1-1 dispatch, and Troop H Headquarters. These conversations were yielding ideas to try to stop the vehicle. The driver held her cell phone in one hand and the steering wheel in the other as she tried each suggestion provided by Harrison County dispatch and the Highway Patrol. There were times when traffic pat-



*Sgt. Al P. Nothum, Troop C, and Cardinals Pitcher Joe Kelly recorded a seat belt PSA.*

terns caused the troopers to move out of the way and allow the Kia to pass. They then resumed the high-speed escort. If the troopers' lights and sirens didn't inspire drivers to move their vehicles out of the way, the three vehicles were forced to use evasive maneuvers. The driver tried every suggestion without success. Upon being informed of the situation, Major J. Bret Johnson suggested she press the brake and lift the accelerator at the same time. This action resulted in her vehicle slowing down to a stop.

St. Louis Cardinals players Matt Carpenter, Jon Jay, Joe Kelly, Shelby Miller, and Jason Motte joined Sergeant Amy E. Reynolds, Trooper Juston R. Wheatley, Trooper Derek A. Mason, and Sergeant Al P. Nothum to film public service announcements about the importance of wearing a seat belt. The Patrol's AV Section filmed the PSAs at Busch Stadium.

The 95th Recruit Class graduated from the Patrol's Law Enforcement Academy on September 21. Twenty-six troopers said the Oath of Office that day.

A memorial highway dedication ceremony honoring Tpr. Fred Guthrie Jr. took place on October 5, at the Platte County Resource Center. The "Trooper Fred F. Guthrie Jr. Memorial Highway" is a portion of Interstate 29 between Missouri Highway 273 (near Tracy, MO) and Missouri Route E (near Camden Point, MO). (EOW August 1, 2011. See pages 131-132.)



*Tpr. Liere R. Dancy, Sgt. Barry A. Kumph, and Cpl. Carl A. Taibi, all Troop A, regulated traffic at Gate 1 during the MLB All-Star game.*

The Patrol's Safety Education Center was re-named the Colonel Alvin R. Lubker Memorial Safety & Education Center effective December 22.

The Patrol acquired 10 Ford Interceptor Sedans and 28 Ford Interceptor Utility vehicles in order to evaluate them. These vehicles, and an additional 350 Dodge Chargers, joined the Crown Victorias, Tahoes, Impalas, and pickup trucks in the agency's fleet.

The Patrol provided 30 troopers, five support personnel, a helicopter, and two mobile command centers to assist with traffic control at the 2012 Major League Baseball All-Star Game and related festivities July 8-10, in Kansas City at Kauffman Stadium.

For the first time, a SAFE boat joined the Patrol's fleet on display at the Missouri State Fair. The model was called the Defender, and was specifically designed to assist with our homeland security roles in the Kansas City and St. Louis port areas.



*The Patrol acquired an additional 350 Dodge Chargers in 2012.*

# 2013

Colonel Ron Replogle presented Valor Awards to Sergeant Shawn L. Price and Trooper David W. Crank. Sgt. Price was honored for his response to an active shooter in Jackson, MO, on June 13, 2012. He directed neighbors to safety while under fire before scanning the area for the gunman, who was concealed in a tree line. When the suspect fired again, it appeared he was shooting toward Cape Girardeau County deputies. Sgt. Price fired rifle rounds into the area where the smoke originated and notified other officers via radio as to the suspect's location. A short time later, the suspect was taken into custody. Corporal J. Shane Stewart accepted a Purple Heart. (See page 133 for a description of the incident involving both Tpr. Crank and Tpr. Stewart.)

A new driver examination station in St. Peters, MO, opened on April 1.

The 96th Recruit Class graduated on July 13, during a ceremony on the south lawn of the Missouri Capitol. Thirty-eight troopers repeated the Oath of Office that day. Due to the overlap in training, the 97th Recruit Class attended the graduation ceremony, standing at attention in the shade. The 97th Recruit Class graduated on December 20, adding 30 new troopers to the ranks.

On July 24, President Barack Obama visited the Warrensburg, MO, area to make a speech on the campus of the University of Central Missouri.



*Members of the Aircraft Division responded to Texas County to rescue a hunter. This was first short haul rescue in Patrol history.*



The Patrol and local law enforcement assisted the Secret Service with security and traffic control.

On September 20, Trooper Zachary S. Wang learned that a man had robbed the First Bank in Dutzow, MO. While traveling southbound on Missouri Route F from New Melle, MO, Tpr. Wang observed a vehicle matching the description provided by the Warren County dispatch. He turned around and attempted to overtake the vehicle. As he

*Troopers dig out a motorist whose vehicle became high centered on snow after sliding off the roadway.*



*Lt. Nathan C. Ahern, Troop A, speaks to the detail prior to President Barack H. Obama's visit to the University of Central Missouri in Warrensburg, MO.*

rounded a curve, he saw that the suspect's vehicle was on the side of the road with the driver's side door partially open. Tpr. Wang stopped his patrol vehicle behind the suspect's vehicle. Knowing the man was armed, Tpr. Wang immediately exited his patrol car and ordered the driver to exit the vehicle and get on the ground. The driver exited the vehicle, pointed a revolver at Tpr. Wang, and began to fire. The first shot struck Tpr. Wang in the chest, and he returned fire as he sought cover at the rear of his patrol vehicle. During the exchange of gunfire, the suspect was struck and dropped his revolver. Once the suspect was secure, Tpr. Wang requested emergency medical personnel to respond. Further investigation revealed that this man was responsible for three additional robberies in the St. Louis, MO, area.

Tpr. David W. Crank accepted a Missouri Medal of Valor from Governor Jay Nixon. The award stemmed from his actions during a traffic stop in New Madrid County in 2012. (See page 133.)

The Patrol hosted Leadership in Police Organizations training at General Headquarters for the first time. Both uniformed and civilian leaders within the Patrol and other law enforcement agencies attended. The course focused on combining the art of leadership with

the science of human behavior to achieve ethical leadership.

In the fall, criminalists assigned to the Patrol's Crime Laboratory Division and members assigned to Troops C, D, G, the Public Information & Education Division, and the Division of Drug & Crime Control took part in The Constitution Project. Designed by Texas County Associate Circuit Judge Douglas D. Gaston, the Constitution Project provided hands-on lessons for high school students who act as crime scene investigators, journalists, and lawyers. The teams competed regionally before traveling to Jefferson City for the finals. General Headquarters hosted the "crime scene" and the Missouri Supreme

Court hosted the "court case."

In August, Sergeant Tim J. Hourihan and Sergeant Darryl C. Suhr initiated an investigation after seeing a MIAC bulletin from the Federal Bureau of Investigation and Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives. The bulletin requested help locating two subjects who had a propensity for violence and had detonated explosives in Southeast Missouri. Sgt. Hourihan recalled seeing the vehicle mentioned in the bulletin. He and Sgt. Suhr reviewed hours of surveillance video at the casino and identified the subjects, who were then arrested.



*Troop F SWAT team makes its way through a culvert on the timed obstacle course. The Patrol's four SWAT teams took part in a friendly competition during biennial training.*

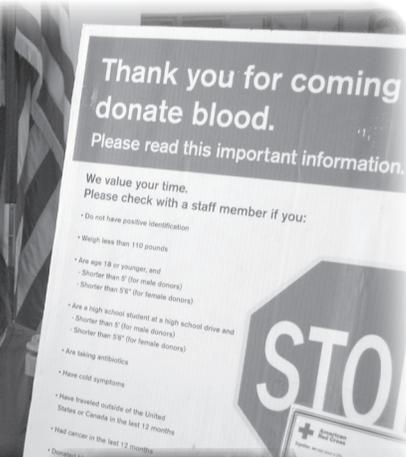


Corporal Michael S. Bracker relentlessly investigated numerous cattle thefts in Southwest Missouri over a two-year period, ending in 2013. His determination led to the identification, apprehension, and arrest of the individual responsible for the theft and illegal sale of stolen cattle. In addition, officers recovered over \$200,000 in stolen property.

*An advanced spectroscope portal radiation monitor was installed at the D4-East weigh station on Interstate 44 in Joplin, MO. This monitor detected and identified radiation. This weigh station was chosen due to the high volume of truck traffic on that interstate highway.*



*Clerk IV Ronda K. Shoush assisted Tpr. James A. Rowe, both Troop B, with registration.*



*The 20th Annual Corporal Michael E. Webster Memorial Blood Drive took place statewide for the first time. The drive collected 270 pints of blood. The photo (at right) shows Ms. Alana (Webster) Hickman, Cpl. Webster's daughter, donating blood at Troop D Headquarters.*

## 2014

The Academy graduated 65 new troopers in 2014. The 98th Recruit Class graduated 34 troopers June 27. The 99th Recruit Class graduated 31 troopers December 19.

On January 19, Trooper Jeff S. Leathers unselfishly entered a burning residence twice to evacuate people and move them to a safe area. The second entry into the residence was even more complicated than the first due to propane tanks next to the residence exploding and sending shrapnel through the air.

Trooper Richard L. Ayers responded to the scene where a citizen was trapped in a waterway after a flash flood in Southeast Missouri on April 27. Tpr. Ayers persevered when his boat capsized as he made his way to the trapped man in swift moving floodwaters. Tpr. Ayers remained calm, swam to the bank, then made his way toward the stranded man. When he reached the man, Tpr. Ayers moved him to a safer location and gave the

man the life jacket he was wearing. Tpr. Ayers then helped make a path for rescuers to reach his location.

On May 22, Driver Examiner Supervisor Tim Murphy was performing his routine duties as a driver examiner when he came upon a burning residence. DE Sprv. Murphy immediately requested emergency assistance, and then ran into the residence. He removed two occupants, one of which was elderly and unable to walk without assistance.

In the early hours of April 8, fire destroyed the main garage building (behind Troop F Headquarters). Although most of the hand tools were salvaged, 10 work bays, the car wash, the warehouse and vehicle detail area, and eight vehicles were a complete loss. The Radio Shop sustained smoke damage, but was operational within a few days. Service and repair operations were moved temporarily to garage space behind MoDOT's central office in Jefferson City. Car trades and some emergency warning equipment repairs continued



*A fire destroyed the GHQ Garage on April 8, 2014.*

*Although most of the hand tools were salvaged, the GHQ Garage was considered a complete loss. A total of eight vehicles burned.*



to be performed at the Patrol's marine maintenance facility. Preliminary reports suggested the fire originated in a pickup truck inside the garage.

Colonel Ron Replogle presented Valor Awards to Troopers Daniel J. Johnson and Jason W. Philpott for their bravery during a 2013 incident. Tprs. Johnson and Philpott launched a Patrol boat, went to a mobile home, outfitted an elderly couple with personal flotation devices, and placed them into the rescue boat. The vessel's motor stalled after the propeller became entangled in barbed wire, then began taking on water in the swift current before it capsized. All four occupants began drifting downstream in the swift moving water, headed toward a certain crash into a flooded concrete bridge. Tprs. Johnson and Philpott swam to and retrieved the elderly couple. The troopers then swam against the swift current and brought the couple to shore just a few feet from the edge of the concrete bridge.

SWAT negotiators from Troops A, C, and F competed in a scenario-driven competition in Kansas City, MO, on May 28. The negotiators from Troops F and C comprised one team while the Troop A negotiators competed as part of a multi-



*Cpl. Dustin T. Metzner (in cage) experiences Water Egress Training with Capt. David K. Striegel (l) and Tpr. Dustin L. Braynard (r) operating the apparatus.*

jurisdictional team. The Troops F and C negotiators took first place in the Missouri Association of Crisis Negotiators Challenge.

Aircraft Division pilots completed Water Egress Training in June and July 2014. The training covered topics such as bracing for impact, unlatching cabin doors, and finding reference prior to impact with water. The pilots used an underwater escape trainer with a generic fuselage section representing an aircraft cockpit during training.

At approximately 1:33 p.m. on August 9, Troop C received a call from Ferguson (MO) Police Department to respond and assist with an officer-involved shooting. The responding officers were unaware they were some of the first officers on the scene of what would become one of the longest periods of civil unrest in American history. During the next couple days, tensions between protesters and police grew. Governor Jay Nixon directed the Missouri State Highway Patrol to step forward in a security role. Captain Ronald S. Johnson, the current Troop C troop commander, was named head of security in Ferguson. Over the next four months, looting, rioting, and violence plagued the Ferguson community. Even through the violence and devastation, troopers



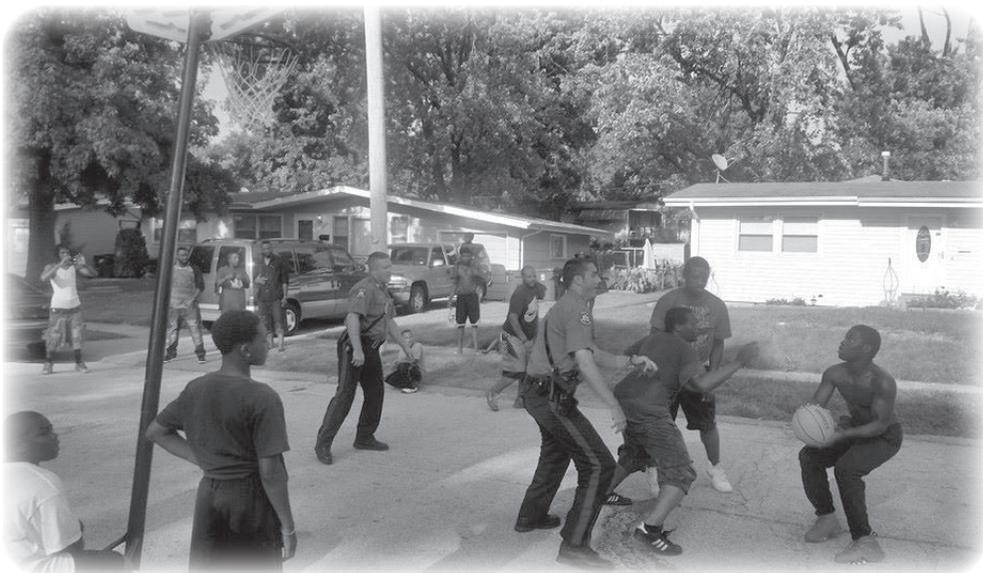
*Crim. Sprv. Adam C. Benne explains the Laboratory Information Management System to visitors from Moldova. The Moldovan officials were learning about the Patrol's accreditation process as they prepared for their own.*



*Capt. Ron Johnson, Troop C, provides an update to officers prior to their security shift in Ferguson, MO.*



*Troopers from across the state provided a calm presence and community policing approach in Ferguson, MO.*



were able to reach out to the community and show their support. Over the four months of unrest, troopers from all over the state were sent to assist with maintaining security in Ferguson and the surrounding area.

At a ceremony on December 18, Gov. Nixon presented Missouri Medals of Valor to Troopers Daniel J. Johnson and Jason W. Philpott for their extraordinary acts of courage after a flash flood in Douglas County. (See page 140.)

Gov. Nixon awarded a 2014 Governor's Award for Quality and Productivity in efficiency/process to the Digital Forensic Investigation Unit on October 30. The DFIU's primary goal is investigating child pornography file sharing networks and the enticement of children on social media. It was determined that a collaborative effort with other state agencies and new investigative techniques with existing software led to greater efficiency and cost reduction to the program in general.

All members and commercial vehicle officers began using the Safariland model 6360- 832 holster, which better accommodated their Glock Model 22.

*Troopers spent their own money to restore a rundown basketball goal, provided a new basketball for the neighborhood children, and later shot a few hoops with them.*

## 2015

A national spotlight shone on Texas County after a man killed seven people and then committed suicide. Shortly after 10 p.m. on the evening of February 26, a Texas County 9-1-1 operator received a call from a young girl reporting she had heard gunshots in her home. The young girl was calling from a neighbor's house. Officers found her parents dead from gunshot wounds; her brother safe and sleeping in his bedroom. A second call from a woman notified authorities she had been shot and left for dead, and her husband killed. The woman identified the gunman as Joseph Aldridge, of Tyrone, MO. Officers from various departments began the search for Aldridge and found his mother, who had been terminally ill, deceased in their home. As officers went door-to-door, two more couples were found deceased in their homes. All the deceased were relatives of Aldridge. Eleven criminal investigators from the Division of Drug and Crime Control were assigned to process the many crime scenes. Two clerical staff from the Patrol's Violent Crime Support Unit and 26 road officers, who went door-to-door searching for Aldridge, assisted DDCC. The parking lot of the Texas County Justice Center was filled with satellite trucks, news crews, and onlookers. The next day, Aldridge was found dead of a self-inflicted gunshot wound.

A new commercial driver's license supersite opened in Hannibal, MO. The facility had a 90,000-square-foot concrete testing pad for con-



*Sgt. Jeffery R. Kinder, Troop G, speaks to the press about the murders in Texas County.*

ducting commercial driver's license and motorcycle skills testing, along with a commercial motor vehicle pre-test inspection building.

Colonel Ron Replogle retired on May 1. Governor Jay Nixon appointed Major J. Bret Johnson the 22nd superintendent of the Patrol effective May 1.



*The new commercial driver's license supersite in Hannibal, MO, is pictured.*



*Colonel J. Bret Johnson*

The Career Recruitment Division was formed on June 1. This division's main responsibility included recruiting civilian and uniformed employees. The division employees were to cultivate partnerships with diverse groups and organizations, build long-term relationships with young people and provide information regarding the wide range of career opportunities within the Patrol.

For the first time, the Patrol's Troop E Honor Guard sent a team to compete during National Police Week. The guard traveled to Washington, D.C., for the May 14 competition, which included three phases: inspection, color guard, and exhibition.

The Patrol's 100th Recruit Class graduated June 26. The Patrol commissioned 32 new troopers during the ceremony. The 101st Recruit Class commissioned 25 new troopers December 18.

Trooper Darrin R. Haslag investigated a former Gasconade County deputy sheriff at the request of the current sheriff. During the course of the nearly two-year investigation, Tpr. Haslag gained the confidence of numerous victims, who were sexually assaulted from June 2010 through August 2012. Evidence was obtained suggesting



*Cpl. Charles W. Hoff, Troop A, answers questions during the 2015 Kansas City Boat Show.*

the suspect used his power as a law enforcement officer to conduct the sexual assaults. Tpr. Haslag identified a second suspect, conducted search warrants, followed leads, and identified victims. During the investigation, approximately 85 potential victims were identified. On January 27, both suspects were arrested and charged with multiple felonies each. Some of the charges included first degree rape, public servant acceding to corruption, and use of a child in a sexual performance.

Troop H replaced two commercial motor vehicle scale platforms (Post H4 South, Atchison County, and Post H2 South, Harrison County) with state-of-the-art, three platform



*Troop E Honor Guard stands silently during the inspection portion of the National Honor Guard competition during National Police Week in Washington, D.C.*



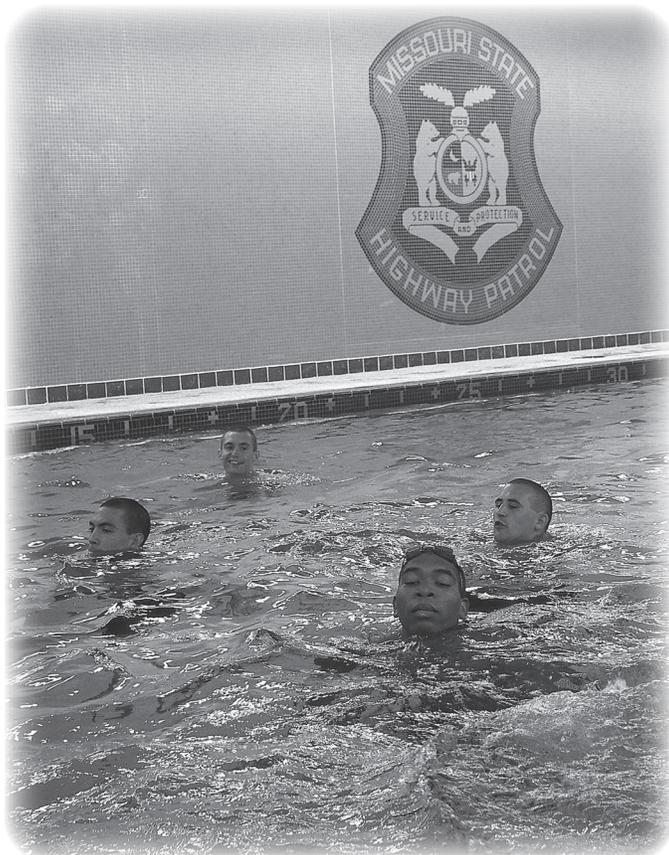
*Workers pour concrete at the approach of the Post H2 weigh station.*

scale. This new scale had a digital readout made available outside the scale house. Commercial motor vehicle drivers could see their axle weights and gross weight while still sitting in their vehicles.

After being closed since 2003, the training tank reopened in 2015. Members of the 101st Recruit

Class used the training tank on July 20, 2015, as part of their training. At the same time the training tank was repaired, a strength training room and defensive tactics room were constructed adjacent to the tanking. On August 5, the Missouri State Highway Patrol training tank was dedicated in memory of Tpr. Fred Guthrie, who made the ultimate sacrifice on August 1, 2011.

On August 28, Trooper James M. Bava, 25, was killed in a one-vehicle traffic crash in Audrain County. At 8:29 a.m., Tpr. Bava radioed he observed a motorcyclist commit a traffic violation on Missouri Route FF in Audrain County. A few minutes later, communications operators at Troop F Headquarters in Jefferson City attempted to contact Tpr. Bava by radio and did not receive a response. At 8:35 a.m., Troop F received a report regarding a Missouri State Highway Patrol vehicle being involved in a single vehicle crash on Route



*On July 20, 2015, members of the 101st Recruit Class christened the training tank. While in the Academy, recruits are trained in the elementary freestyle (American crawl), breaststroke, side stroke, and elementary backstroke. They also attend classroom training on marine laws and boater safety. In this photo, they are treading water.*



*Trooper James M. Bava*



*Those attending the diversity celebration enjoyed meeting the McPherson family. Pictured with the McPherson family are members of the Career Recruitment Division, which planned the event.*

FF, just east of Audrain Road 977. Emergency responders arrived on the scene and confirmed Tpr. Bava had been killed in the crash. He was survived by his fiancée, parents, and siblings.

In November 2015, the Audrain County Prosecuting Attorney's Office charged a 20-year-old Mexico, MO, man in connection with Tpr. Bava's death. The first trial resulted in a mistrial when the jury could not reach a verdict (2017). The man was found not guilty of manslaughter and not guilty of resisting a lawful stop in the second trial (2018).

The Patrol celebrated 50 years of diversity on November 2, with a gathering in the Academy gymnasium. Mr. David J. McPherson, Missouri's first black trooper, served as keynote speaker at the event.

The Missouri Automated Criminal History Site Fingerprint Portal team accepted a Governor's Award for Quality and Productivity in efficiency/process improvement. The MACHS Fingerprint Portal team created a new system that allowed the state to electronically process fingerprint-based background checks. This new system allowed for the reduction of positions and man-hours previously dedicated to manually processing such checks.

Severe storms, tornadoes, straight-line winds, and record flooding occurred during late December 2015. The adverse weather affected Troops C, D, F, G, and I, and resulted in 33 Missouri counties being awarded federal disaster assistance. From December 26-30, troopers rescued 41 people from



*Col. Jackie B. (Bret) Johnson stands with the MACHS Fingerprint Portal team after the team accepted a Governor's Award for Quality & Productivity.*

fast moving flood waters after either they or their cars were swept away. The flooding was directly responsible for 14 fatalities.

The Missouri State Highway Patrol entered the realm of social media with the creation of Twitter accounts and re-activation of a Facebook page. The first Tweet invited the public to view a recruiting video; the second wished everyone a happy new year. Twitter accounts for GHQ, all nine troops, DDCC, recruiting, and the colonel began communicating to the public on December 31.

## 2016

SWAT team members from Troops A, C, and F joined local troopers and law enforcement agencies in the search for Pablo Antonio Serrano-Vitorino. On March 7, Serrano-Vitorino, 40, was suspected of killing four people in a home next door to his own in Kansas City, KS. He then fled the area in a pickup that was later found abandoned in Montgomery County on the side of Interstate 70. Nearby, Randy J. Nordman, 49, was shot and killed at his home. The suspect matched Serrano-Vitorino's description. Within minutes, Montgomery County deputies and area troopers established a perimeter and secured three local schools. The 17-hour manhunt lasted through the night in the rain. Sergeant R. Brooks McGinnis and Sergeant Greg D. Primm located the suspect lying in the grass at the intersection of I-70 and Missouri Route 19, and took him into custody without further incident.

The new Patrol Garage was dedicated on February 4, 2016 (operations began December 18, 2015). The new facility had a new more modern layout with fewer garage doors and one main entrance, an abundance of storage, and excellent lighting.

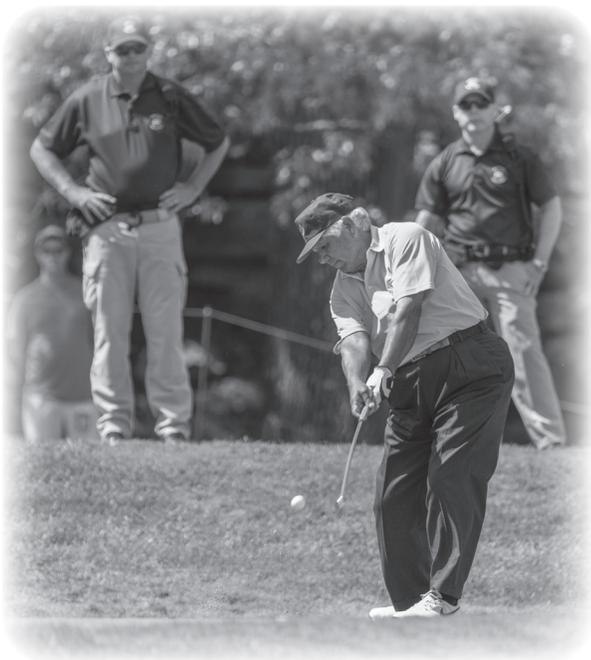
Trooper Jason M. Hurt accepted a Valor Award at the annual awards banquet. While off duty and traveling in his personal vehicle, Tpr. Hurt ob-

served a female standing on the side of County Road 327 in Monroe County, Missouri. He stopped and asked if he could assist her, and learned her boyfriend was intoxicated, angry, and attempting to commit suicide in a nearby cabin. Tpr. Hurt responded immediately to the cabin and observed two men struggling over a rifle. Tpr. Hurt drew his handgun and identified himself as a Missouri State Highway Patrol trooper, but the men continued struggling. Tpr. Hurt then holstered his handgun, took hold of the rifle, and disarmed the suicidal man. Tpr. Hurt took the man into custody, secured the scene, and contacted the Monroe County Sheriff's Department. The man was transported to a hospital for a psychiatric evaluation.

In July 2015, Trooper Derek A. Mason read an email from MIAC sharing information about a kidnapping that occurred in Rio Rancho, NM. The Rio Rancho (NM) Police Department pinged the subject's cell phone in Colorado and in Kansas City, MO. Tpr. Mason established contact with the Rio Rancho Police Department and, with Sergeant Michael E. Broniec and Trooper Jose Sanchez, began investigating. Another cell phone ping led the Missouri troopers to a Greyhound Bus Station in downtown St. Louis. The troopers checked manifests and surveillance video to determine the bus the subjects boarded was due to stop in Indianapolis, IN, in about two hours. The Indiana State



*The new Patrol Garage was dedicated on February 4, 2016.*



*The Patrol provided added security for the Legends of Golf tournament in Branson on April 20-24, 2016. (l to r) Sgt. Jamie Musche (Q/DDCC) and Sgt. Bruce Klier (D) are seen keeping watch while golf legend Lee Trevino plays.*

Police and the Indianapolis Police Department conducted a sting at the bus terminal and took the subject into custody. At that time, the young girl advised police she had been taken against her will. In November 2016, the male subject accepted a plea agreement and was sentenced to 16 years in federal prison.



*Tpr. Andy Ward (D) rescued this wounded eagle while patrolling Table Rock Lake. The injured bird was released to a Conservation Department agent who then gave it to a zoo for rehabilitation.*

The Missouri Legislature created two memorial highways honoring troopers in 2016. Senate Bill 1009 designated, "The portion of state highway FF in Audrain County beginning at Elmwood Drive in the city of Mexico and extending west to County Road 977," as the Trooper James M. Bava Memo-



*This billboard located off U.S. Highway 54 near the Lake of the Ozarks promoted a community approach to boating safety.*

rial Highway. (EOW August 28, 2015. See pages 144-145.) House Bill 2335 named the bridge on Missouri Highway 32 crossing the Meramec River in Dent County the “Trooper Gary Snodgrass Memorial Bridge.” (EOW February 21, 1970. See page 44.)

For the first time in the nation’s history, an Emergency Management Assistance Compact for a national convention was put in place. The compact covered additional law enforcement support for the 2016 Republican National Convention from July 18-22, in Cleveland, Ohio. Buses transported the troopers to and from the convention. The Missouri State Highway Patrol contingent was part of the 1,600 state troopers from 19 state highway patrol/police agencies that were part of the EMAC.

The Patrol launched a mobile app in May. Users had quick access to the Patrol’s emergency lines, locations, and web pages. The app worked with both Android and Apple products.

The Patrol commissioned the 102nd Recruit Class on June 24. Twenty-six new troopers took their Oath of Office.

In July, Sergeant Jason H. Glendenning and Trooper Tyler G. Zimmerman took a proactive approach and searched for trouble spots on the

Niangua River after recent flooding. The troopers located an area where the river flow was sweeping into a large tree, creating a strainer, which is hazardous for floaters. As they were addressing this problem, floaters arrived and were swept into the dangerous strainer. The troopers rescued the floaters and took them safely to shore, then returned to the tree. As they continued to address the strainer, the troopers were called upon to rescue people in danger two more times. Repeatedly, Sgt. Glendenning and Tpr. Zimmerman maneuvered their boat into a dangerous area and entered the water to rescue those in danger. The troopers rescued a total of 11 people before they could move up river and stop other people from floating into this dangerous area. They subsequently made arrangements to have the tree removed from the river.

During the 2016 Shoot Out Boat Race at the Lake of the Ozarks, one of the drivers lost control of his 22-foot Donzi Classic while traveling at approximately 109 mph. The driver was ejected when the boat violently impacted the water. Sergeant David F. Echternacht quickly responded to the scene, swam to the man, and administered a modified jaw thrust to open the man’s airway.



*Missouri troopers served as a mobile field force during the Republican National convention in July 2016.*



*Troopers found themselves to be quite popular with convention attendees and Cleveland, OH, residents during the Republican National Convention.*

Emergency services transported him to the hospital. The man recovered.

Effective October 1, the Information and Communications Technology Division and the Criminal Justice Information Services Division were consolidated, retaining the CJIS Division name. The communications function within ICTD was separated and re-established as the Communications Division.

Numerous troopers assisted the U.S. Secret Service during the final presidential debate between Mr. Donald Trump and Ms. Hillary Clinton on October 9, at Washington University in St. Louis.

Gov. Jay Nixon presented Missouri Medals of Valor on November 28, to Corporal Jason M. Hurt, and Corporal Dave H. Brown and Trooper Rob W. Garrett. Cpl. Hurt's actions in disarming a suicidal man resulted in his accepting a medal. Cpl. Brown and Tpr. Garrett accepted medals for their bravery and expertise when rescuing a stranded man after a flash flood near the Missouri Highway 251 bridge over the Pomme de Terre River in Polk County in December 2015.

The Patrol's Facebook page welcomed 40,000 new "likes" and its Twitter accounts totaled 6.5K followers in 2016. The most popular posts occurred on National Puppy Day and December 17, when a Callaway County trooper's dash cam showed how dangerous driving on ice is. The video showed a traffic crash on ice-covered roads.

The Patrol commissioned 39 new troopers on December 30, during the graduation ceremony for the 103rd Recruit Class.

In June, an Augmented Reality System was installed in Patrol aircraft to assist pilots in locating and identifying potential suspects and vehicles. An officer in the aircraft looked at the display in the cockpit and provided location information to troopers on the ground. The ARS used addresses, roadways, businesses, etc., and created an overlay on the video images from the forward-looking infrared camera. This system made it easier to operate the camera, because instead of looking away from the camera to look at a map, all the information appeared on the screen. This technology was a significant addition to the Missouri State Highway Patrol's resources. The high definition images from the camera were clearer, day or night, making it easier to locate and identify missing or wanted persons, and in some cases, evidence.

The first successful deployment of the ARS occurred on August 20. The Patrol was conducting an aircraft operation on Interstate 70 in St. Charles County. During the eight-hour operation, the pilot checked two separate motorcyclists traveling at a high rate of speed. When troopers attempted to stop the motorcycles, both motorcyclists refused to yield to the troopers and pursuits ensued. The pilot was able to follow both motorcycles and guide officers to their locations using the ARS.

## 2017

As part of Governor Eric Greitens' inauguration, the newly elected governor reviewed a contingent of Missouri State Highway Patrol and Missouri National Guard members. Approximately 306 Patrol employees (277 of whom were members) served as part of the inauguration detail.

Col. J. Bret Johnson retired February 1, 2017.

Governor Eric Greitens appointed Sandra K. Karsten the 23rd superintendent of the Patrol effective February 1. Col. Karsten held the distinction of being the first female member of the Patrol to hold the ranks of captain, major, lieutenant colonel, and colonel.

The Civilian of the Year award was renamed the Matilda "Tillie" Sonnen Civilian of the Year award to honor the Patrol's first civilian employee, who served for 40 years.

On October 4, Trooper Gary E. Gundy attempted to stop a minivan traveling 91 mph on Interstate 70. It exited the interstate and stopped at Midway Travel Plaza where Tpr. Gundy and a Boone County deputy detained two of its four occupants. Computer checks of the serial numbers revealed the camera bodies, lenses, and stabilizing equipment found in the suspect's vehicle were stolen from San Francisco, CA. VideoFAX had reported a theft of \$1,035,000 in equipment on September 16, 2016. Tpr. Gundy and DDCC officers also recovered numerous pairs of designer sunglasses, watches, and leather goods.



*Colonel Sandra K. Karsten*

Valor Awards were presented to Trooper Daniel A. Yingling, Trooper Adam N. Miller, and Trooper Rebecca L. Eagan. Tpr. Yingling was involved in an exchange of gunfire with a suspect. He assisted a wounded sheriff's deputy after the suspect was in custody. Tpr. Miller rescued a



*Members of the Missouri State Highway Patrol and Missouri National Guard await review by the governor as part of the inauguration ceremony.*

# ECLIPSE | SAFETY TIPS

*Memes like this one drew attention to the importance of safety while enjoying the total eclipse on August 21, 2017.*

disabled person from a house fire. Tpr. Eagan was involved in an altercation with a subject resisting arrest who had shot Trooper Jay A. Shirley. She fired her weapon wounding the suspect and ending the confrontation. Trooper D. Jason McBride and Trooper Jay A. Shirley each accepted Purple Heart awards for injuries sustained while on duty. Both recovered and returned to active duty.

Weather forecasts indicated heavy rainfall for late April. To prepare for the inevitable flooding, the Patrol staged its marine operations troopers in areas expected to be hit hardest. The Patrol staged aircraft in Springfield, MO, and 47 marine operations troopers (all swift water qualified) with the necessary equipment in Troops C, D, E, G, and I in anticipation of the flooding. Troops A, B, and

F supplied additional personnel and equipment throughout the event. Thirty-one boats were made available for swift water rescues, evacuations, flood details, and water patrols. The three aircraft (two helicopters and one fixed-wing) took part in rescues, provided flood assessment, and checked power lines. The Patrol's flood response lasted from April 28 until May 7. Marine operations troopers assisted 223 people and handled 82 flood-related rescues/evacuations. Six flood-related fatalities were reported. Road troopers complemented the marine operations troopers by reinforcing road closure barricades and responding to numerous flood-related service calls. Although the Patrol returned to normal operations on May 7, troopers continued to monitor waterways closely.



*Troopers position themselves between spectator and sport at the 2017 Lake of the Ozarks Shootout boat race.*

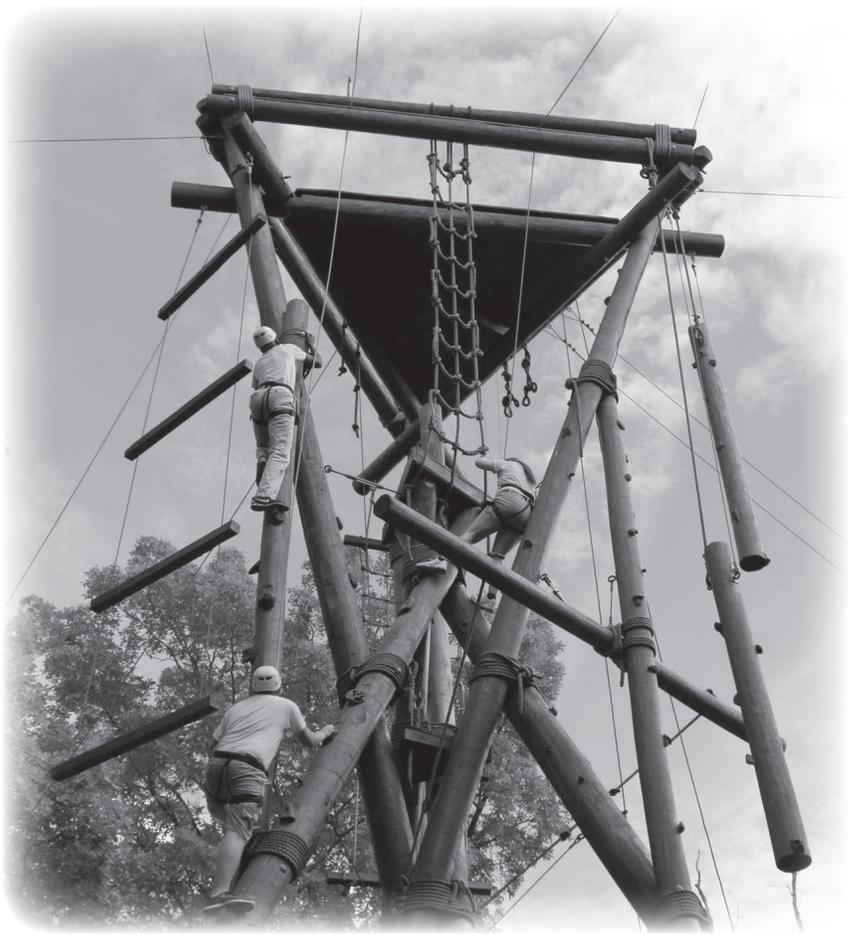
Dive Team members Corporal Dean A. Bartlett, Trooper Rob W. Garrett, Sergeant Kurt C. Merseal, and Trooper Logan B. Monahan, completed technical diving qualifications. Technical diving is a form of scuba diving that involves greater depth and immersion time.

On April 6, Trooper Robert J. North responded to a motor vehicle crash on U.S. Highway 67 in Jefferson County, where the driver was being treated for a drug overdose. Tpr. North's investigation led to the discovery approximately 20 small individual bags containing a variety of 400 prescription pills. A consensual search of the subject's residence revealed over 100 wholesale prescription pill bottles containing 13,358 pills, numerous syringes, smoking pipes, and a bag of marijuana. As a result, area police agencies cleared several burglaries and other criminal cases, including several in Illinois. Two subjects identified in this investigation later confessed to multiple crimes and were arrested.

The 104th Recruit Class graduated on June 23. The Patrol commissioned 27 new troopers during the ceremony.

The Missouri State Highway Patrol held its first-ever Youth Academy Program in 2017. This program helped young people explore career opportunities in law enforcement while fostering teamwork and personal leadership skills. The Youth Academy Program can be held in any troop area and is funded by private donations.

People from all over the world visited Missouri on August 21, 2017, to experience a total solar eclipse. Much of the state was in the "path of totality." On the day of the eclipse, the Patrol initiated the 20-Mile Trooper program and assigned additional personnel. There were additional marine enforcement troopers assigned to waterways, too. The Aircraft Division staged five of their aircraft at five Missouri locations along the path of totality: St. Joseph, Marshall, Jefferson City, Perryville, and Cape Girardeau. Troopers provided traffic direction in congested areas. For the most part, the day of the total eclipse was business as usual for the Patrol. And, yet, for a short time, in the middle of the day, there wasn't anything usual about it.



*Cadets scale the Alpine Tower during the Patrol's first Youth Academy Program (2017).*

Troop I dedicated 25 troopers and the necessary marine resources to the "Bull Float" in Crawford County. Troopers provided high visibility, monitored vehicular and marine traffic, patrolled campgrounds, watched for criminal violations/activity, and provided assistance to local law enforcement and the crowd, which exceeded 8,000 people.

In response to the growing concern regarding opioid addiction, troopers attended specialized training in September, and took part in several opioid summit gatherings. Troopers were equipped with Narcan. Within six weeks of the training, troopers had utilized their training to save three lives.

On October 28, Gov. Greitens presented the Missouri Medal of Valor to Sergeant Jason H. Glendenning and Trooper Tyler G. Zimmerman. The award recognized their actions on July 16, 2016, involving a large tree creating a strainer on the Niangua River. (See page 148.)

Sergeant Brandon M. White taught the Firearms Stress Combat course at the Patrol's Acade-

my. Understanding societal trends and experience led him to provide instruction as to why officers should move away from the driver side door and instead, seek alternative positions of concealment and cover that provide a greater tactical advantage. On March 6, 2017, this training saved the life of Trooper Ryan J. Windham when he was fired upon after a vehicle pursuit. The investigation showed Tpr. Windham's application of Sgt. White's new training stressing tactical movement, cover, and concealment, which played a role in his survival.

The Patrol's Office of Community Engagement and Outreach was established June 1. Captain Ron Johnson assumed the position of director. This office worked to develop solutions to challenging social issues and connect community members with resources that effect positive change.

## 2018

The Fleet & Facilities Division acquired six additional Mercury inflatable boats in April. This purchase ensured that every troop had at least two Mercury inflatable boats for use during swift water rescues.

The Patrol provided its first ice rescue training on January 4-5. The program was certified through Dive Rescue International.

A Top 10 Enforcers luncheon honored the top 10 troopers statewide in DWI arrests, felony arrests, controlled substances arrests, and the top trooper in BWI arrests. It was the first such ceremony ever held.

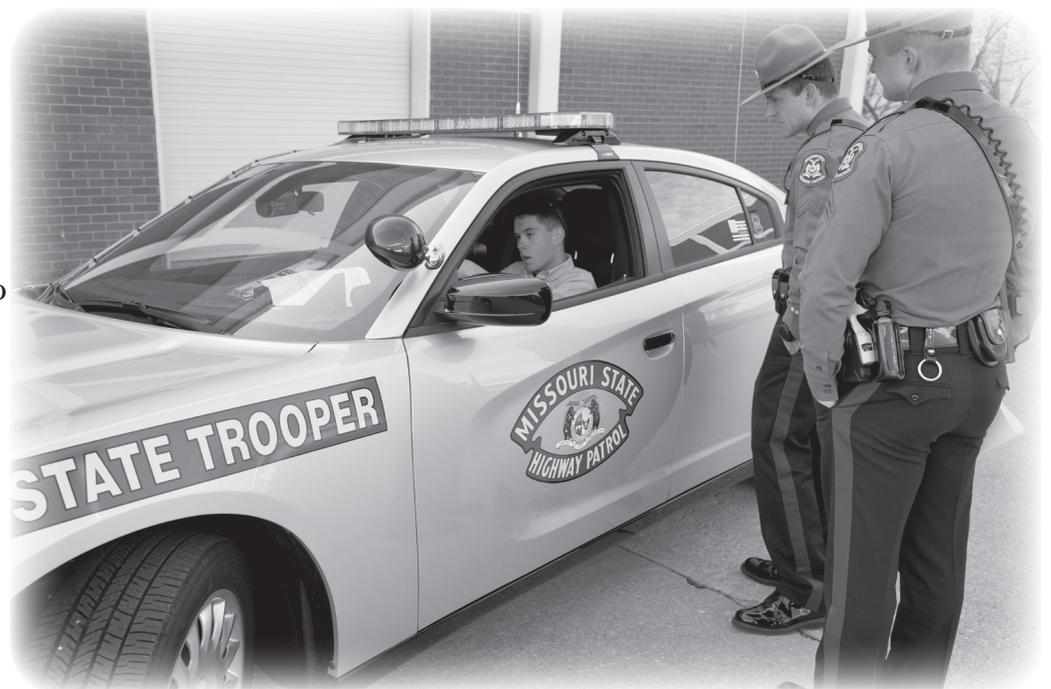
On March 19, Trooper Matthew W. Neely observed a vehicle matching the suspect vehicle in a residential burglary. He attempted to overtake the vehicle, which exited Interstate 35 and shortly thereafter crashed into a utility pole. The driver and passenger fled the vehicle on foot. Tpr. Neely advised the

passenger she was under arrest and to remain with the vehicle. As Tpr. Neely chased the suspect on foot, the man turned and fired multiple shots from a Glock handgun. Tpr. Neely took cover and, when the shooting stopped, issued commands to the suspect to drop his weapon. The suspect failed to comply and attempted to re-engage Tpr. Neely who fired his weapon and stopped the threat. He and other officers on the scene then provided first aid until medical personnel arrived and took the suspect to the hospital for treatment.

Sergeant Kurt C. Merseal and Corporal Bryan S. Silverthorn accepted Valor Awards at the annual banquet. They were recognized for their brave actions when rescuing three people from the swift Meramec River currents. When it was impossible to get a boat to the stranded people, the officers relied on their rescue swimming training.

General Headquarters hosted SkillsUSA on April 6. The Patrol conducted the crime scene and criminal justice scenario competition segments. This was the first time the agency hosted this program. Employees assigned to the Division of Drug and Crime Control, Public Information and Education Division, Career Recruitment Division, Crime Laboratory Division, and Troops B, F, and I facilitated the program and served as judges.

The 105th Recruit Class graduated 26 new troopers June 29. The 106th Recruit Class graduated 27 new troopers December 21.



*Troopers evaluate a student's radio skills during SkillsUSA*

*Tpr. Billy Cole (A) and Sgt. Scott Richardson (Q/FOB) watch the Duck being brought to shore.*



At 7:10 p.m. on Thursday, July 19, DUKW Stretch Duck 07 sank at Table Rock Lake, just north of the Branson Belle. Troop D troopers, volunteers from the Branson Belle, and local first responders immediately went to the scene. Unfortunately, 17 of the 31 people on board died, and another seven were injured. Troop D marine enforcement troopers assisted in the recovery of bodies from the water. Officers from the Division of Drug and Crime Control, Major Crash Investigation Unit Team 3, the MSHP Dive Team, the U.S. Coast Guard, and the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) became part of the response and investigation. Nine MSHP divers responded to the scene and recovered six of the victims. The Dive Team and Troop D marine enforcement troopers conducted sonar searches to locate the Duck, which sank in water that was approximately 45 feet deep, then rolled down a slope and came to rest where the water was approximately 88 feet deep. The Dive Team made three additional dives to assess lifting points to raise the Duck, collect evidence, and retrieve personal property. Dive Team Leader Sgt. Kurt Merseal worked with Ride the Ducks representatives, the salvage company

Fitzco Marine Group, a Branson rigging company, and the U.S. Coast Guard to develop a plan to lift the Duck. On Monday, July 23, four divers descended and attached the provided rigging to the Duck. The much-coordinated effort between divers and marine enforcement troopers topside led to the successful raising of the Duck.

Missouri became one of three states in the nation approved for the Federal Rap Back program on August 28, when Missouri House Bill 1350 took effect. The RAP Back program allowed qualified entities in Missouri to receive ongoing status notifications of new arrests for applicants under the entity's purview. RAP Back was an answer to the concern about one-time criminal history checks conducted on persons in positions of public trust.

Colonel Sandra K. Karsten retired September 1, after Governor Michael L. Parson asked her to assume the responsibilities of director of Missouri's Department of Public Safety. Lieutenant Colonel Eric T. Olson served as acting superintendent for the remainder of the year.

In 2018, Field Operations Bureau employees developed an Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Program. All 16 members of the Major Crash Investigation

Unit went through extensive training in UAV operations and secured their Federal Aviation Administration Part 107 Unmanned Aerial Systems Pilot License. (The Patrol obtained FAA waivers to operate UAVs within the majority of Missouri airspace.) MCIU members continued to map each scene using their Total Station or GPS unit. Using UAVs significantly reduced the time at a crash scene, and roadways were cleared in a more expedient manner.

The teamwork of DDCC Trooper Kyle A. Schrage and DDCC Violent Crime Support Unit Criminal Intelligence Analysts Nancy A. Scheulen, Ruth E. Hunter, and Samantha R. Roussel began with one allegation of a child being sexually assaulted. The investigation led to 10 confirmed victims across four counties over a span of 37 years. The suspect in the case was convicted in Buchanan County and given a life sentence.



*House Bill 1350 authorized Rap Back.*

On May 12, Trooper Bradley R. Muck, crisis negotiator, skillfully provided a climate for a peaceful resolution to a disturbance caused by inmates at the Crossroads Correction Center in Cameron, MO.

Training Division Instructor Sergeant Aaron K. Griffin recognized vehicle stops as a high-risk area of policing and developed an in-depth, three-day course, “Armed Encounters & High Risk Traffic Stops.” The course provided officers with the tactics needed to prevail in an armed encounter during a traffic stop.

On September 7, a highway dedication ceremony was held at Boone County Electric Cooperative in Columbia, MO, honoring Sgt. Benjamin O. Booth and Sheriff Roger I Wilson, who died in the line of duty together in 1933. The two memorial highways started at Missouri 763, just north of the intersection where the tragedy occurred. Sgt. Booth’s portion proceeded west, toward the cemetery where he was laid to rest, and Sheriff

Wilson’s portion proceeded east.

The Patrol moved to Police Leadership — West Point Model. The transition provided a cost savings and allowed flexibility in facilitating the course and ability to adapt lessons to be more Patrol specific.

Corporals Jonathan T. Wilson and Shayne K. Talburt were patrolling the Current River in Ripley County on May 26. Cpl. Wilson observed a family in distress in the water. Their inner tubes, which had been linked together, had come loose and flipped over. All seven people – two adults and five children – were thrown into the water. Cpls. Wilson and Talburt worked together to save all seven people.

The Criminal Justice Information Services Division began submitting Patrol reports to the National Data Exchange. The N-DEX system provides access to over 775 million records for more than 7,200 criminal justice agencies across the nation.

## 2019

On March 5, 2019, Governor Michael L. Parson appointed Lieutenant Colonel Eric T. Olson as the 24th superintendent of the Patrol.

In August 2018, 24 Patrol members attended the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center's Active Shooter Threat Instructor Training Program. The intent of this course was to standardize the Patrol's active threat response and develop consistent training. All members completed this course prior to the end of 2019. The training consisted of both classroom instruction and practical exercises, and took place in each troop, providing the added benefit of familiar surroundings.

At the annual awards banquet, Trooper Matthew W. Neeley accepted a Valor Award. (See page 153.) Trooper Rob D. Crewse accepted a Purple Heart for injuries sustained in the line of duty.

In January, one of Gaming Division Corporal Zac A. Harrison's previous cases was adjudicated in the Eastern District of Missouri, resulting in a federal "structuring" prosecution. It was the first of its kind and would provide federal prosecutors with positive case law in future cases. In April 2019, Cpl. Harrison uncovered a drug distribution ring operating in Mark Twain Casino and the surrounding community. His investigation revealed the specifics of the operation, and security footage he obtained verified eight transactions. A supervisor and bartender were arrested and convicted of drug distribution. Four additional suspects were identified. In July, Cpl. Harrison initiated another criminal investigation involving drug distribution and public corruption based on a source with in-depth knowledge in the Louisiana, MO, area with ties in LaGrange. This multi-agency investigation identified 29 suspects and is ongoing. Additionally, Cpl. Harrison investigated two large scale money laundering operations. The first involved a target residing in the Kirksville, MO, area, who utilized Mark Twain Casino to launder and structure large amounts of currency. The second financial case was a large-scale money-laundering operation in Northeast Missouri and beyond involving numerous financial institutions.

Thirty-one new troopers graduated with the 107th Recruit Class on June 21.

Missouri's spring weather forced Aircraft Division personnel to evacuate the Patrol hangar in



*Colonel Eric T. Olson*

Jefferson City. Aircraft began flying from the Columbia Airport, while personnel borrowed space at the Missouri State Emergency Management warehouse for storage and office space. The river invaded the Jefferson City Airport, cresting at a height of 33.4 feet and resulting in approximately four feet of water in the hangar. The airport did not completely reopen until July 10.

The Patrol updated its uniform guidelines to allow troopers and uniform civilians to have tattoos or brands if they met two requirements: 1) Tattoos or brands could not depict or support criminal behavior, drug usage, nudity, profanity, promiscuity, subversive groups, bigotry, etc. 2) Tattoos/brands could not be located on the head, neck, hands, wrists, or any part of the body which would be visible during movements in the performance of their duties while wearing an official uniform or civilian attire. Troopers and uniform civilians with tattoos on the arms that would be visible in the class B uniform (short sleeves) were required to wear the class A uniform (long sleeves). This change went into effect during the 110th Recruit Class selection process.



*Tpr. Steven Washabaugh (F) conveys Aircraft Division personnel to the hangar on June 4.*

HB 812 & HB 832 designated a portion of U.S. Highway 50 in Johnson County from Business 50 east to the interchange with PCA Road as the “Trooper John N. Greim Memorial Highway.” (EOW July 13, 1945. See page 92.) The bill also designated a portion of Missouri Highway 33 from Missouri Highway A continuing to South Street in Clinton County as the “Trooper Fred L. Walker Memorial Highway.” (EOW December 3, 1941. See page 17.)

Five commercial vehicle officers were commissioned on July 12. Their previous experience and POST status shortened training to six weeks. Seventeen commercial vehicle officers were commissioned on October 25, after 17 weeks of training.

On September 25, Sergeant David F. Echternacht administered the inaugural Open Water Swim Class for 10 troopers at Lake of the Ozarks. The Open Water Swim Class was designed to increase marine troopers’ confidence in their ability to swim and navigate open water of varying depths (30’-100’ deep), without wearing a personal flotation device. (The swimmers wore a swim buoy attached to their waist as a precaution.) By

the conclusion of the training, the troopers swam 1.4 miles, crossed the main channel of Lake of the Ozarks twice, crossed the Morgan/Camden county line twice, and were away from the shore for approximately an hour and a half.

A groundbreaking ceremony on November 8, marked the start of construction to enlarge the Annex by 7,956 square feet. The new space would become home to the Crime Laboratory Division’s DNA Section.

The Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies re-accredited the Patrol for the ninth time on November 16.

On January 22, Trooper Keaton L. Ebersold responded to a rolling domestic in a tractor trailer on Interstate 29 in Atchison County, Missouri. A female was holding the male truck driver hostage at gunpoint. Tpr. Ebersold joined Rock Port Police Chief Shannon Sherwood in stopping the tractor trailer. The truck driver was able to exit the vehicle and run toward the officers while holding his hands up. He informed the officers that a female in the truck had a gun. Tpr. Ebersold approached on the passenger side; Chief Sherwood approached



*Swimmers proved their strength and endurance during Open Water Swim Class.*

the driver side. The woman had her left arm around a small child and held a flare gun pointed at the child's head. The officers attempted to speak with the woman, but she would not respond. Tpr. Ebersold then opened the passenger door and climbed onto the steps of the tractor trailer. The suspect pointed the flare gun at Tpr. Ebersold, who took cover but continued his attempts to speak with her. The woman again pointed the gun toward the child, so Tpr. Ebersold moved back into the door opening. As Chief Sherwood spoke to the suspect, the woman lowered the flare gun slightly. Tpr. Ebersold immediately lunged inside the vehicle and wrapped his left hand around the hammer of the flare gun to lock it in place. He gained control of the flare gun and threw it outside the truck. After a lengthy struggle, the woman was taken into custody, and the child was safely removed from the truck. The suspect was not injured. Tpr. Ebersold sustained minor cuts to his hand during the altercation.

On May 31, Troop H communications received a call regarding shots being fired from a red passenger car northbound on Interstate 35 at the 48-mile marker. Trooper Nicholas A. Regan responded from Cameron, Missouri, was successful

in overtaking the vehicle, and initiated a pursuit. Near the 62-mile marker, the suspect fired shots at Tpr. Regan, who returned fire using his Patrol rifle as the pursuit continued. A short distance later, the suspect's vehicle was involved in a rollover traffic crash, and the suspect was found pinned under the vehicle. The suspect was pronounced deceased at the scene from a self-inflicted gunshot wound. The following investigation found the suspect had shot two victims as he passed their vehicle before Tpr. Regan initiated his pursuit. Both victims recovered.

On July 5, Trooper Derek E. Rogers and Corporal Mark A. Philpott assisted the Wright County Sheriff's Department with a search warrant at a residence. When the troopers and deputies arrived with the warrant, Cpl. Philpott and one deputy went to a location overlooking the residence while Tpr. Rogers and the other deputies approached the residence. Tpr. Rogers then saw the resident near a vehicle in the yard. The officers began approaching the man while Tpr. Rogers instructed, "Highway Patrol, show me your hands." The man placed his hands near his waist line and then spun around, walking quickly away from the officers. Tpr. Rogers pursued him on foot, leading the other

officers. The man's route took him directly toward Cpl. Philpott, who saw he had a gun and alerted the other officers. At the bottom of a hill, the man turned and fired toward the deputy to Tpr. Rogers' right before firing at the trooper. Tpr. Rogers was approximately 30 feet from the man with no cover. He returned fire with his duty weapon and continued to move toward the suspect at a 45-degree angle. As Trooper Rogers emptied his first magazine, the suspect fell to the ground. While Tpr. Rogers was changing magazines, the suspect returned to his feet with his gun in hand. Tpr. Rogers, now approximately 15 feet from the suspect, continued firing and emptied his second magazine, resulting in the suspect falling to the ground a second time. At the same time, Cpl. Philpott, who was approximately 50 yards from the suspect, fired his assigned rifle. After the suspect was down, Tpr. Rogers confirmed he was deceased and then went to a deputy who had been wounded in the exchange of gunfire. Finding a bullet had shattered the deputy's shin bone, Tpr. Rogers applied a tourniquet and called for emergency medical services.

On August 16, members of the Missouri State Highway Patrol and Carter County Sheriff's Department served an eviction notice at a residence. The man inside the home would not comply when officers spoke to him through the door. A deputy then kicked the front door to forcefully open it. Immediately, the officers were met with multiple rounds of gunfire. A deputy was struck in the leg, groin, and chest area, and fell to the porch unable to retreat and seek cover. The trooper and another deputy retreated and took cover.

From his position of cover behind a vehicle close to the residence, Corporal Jason C. Kuessner recognized the danger to the fallen deputy. He began to persistently demand the deputy to roll off the porch out of the line of fire and repeatedly encouraged the deputy to continue to fight to survive. The deputy managed to find the strength to roll off the porch onto the ground and eventually drag himself forward two steps before he collapsed. At this time, Cpl. Kuessner left his position of cover, retrieved the deputy, and dragged him behind the nearby vehicle. Sergeant Shawn M. Dougherty responded to Cpl. Kuessner's request for assistance and ran from the tree line to the vehicle. The officers covered the suspect's location with their weapons while pulling the deputy across

the yard to the tree line where he could receive medical attention. The resident surrendered to the Troop C SWAT team without incident later that afternoon. The deputy later told the sheriff that Cpl. Kuessner had "kept him fighting" and saved his life.

## 2020

A groundbreaking ceremony for an outdoor firing range took place Wednesday, January 8, 2020. Prior to this facility, the Patrol did not have an outdoor range. The new outdoor range, located on Missouri Highway 179 north of State Surplus property, accommodates rifles, shotguns, and pistols. Each range is comprised of a pavilion with lights and electrical outlets. The outdoor facility includes 30 firing lanes, a classroom, shoot house (concrete/ballistic structure for tactical training), bomb disposal area, and parking. Although the ribbon cutting ceremony occurred December 23, the range was first used by the Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Division's commercial vehicle officer 600-hour basic school on September 21.

On January 12, Troop D Radio received a report of an intoxicated, suicidal suspect threatening to shoot law enforcement. A Newton County deputy located the suspect's vehicle traveling northbound on Missouri Highway 59, and followed it onto Interstate 49 into Carthage, MO. Trooper Matthew R. Cook responded to the deputy's request for assistance. Once Tpr. Cook, Trooper Benjamin R. Dodson, and a Jasper County deputy were behind the suspect, the suspect attempted a U-turn through a large parking lot adjacent to Missouri Highway 571, in Carthage. Tpr. Cook now found himself in front of the suspect. He took this opportunity to initiate a traffic stop and prevented the violator from reentering the highway. Tpr. Cook activated his emergency equipment, and the violator stopped with the two vehicles facing one another.

Tpr. Cook exited his patrol vehicle, drew his assigned Glock duty pistol, and began to give verbal commands to the violator. The violator retrieved a silver .44-caliber handgun from the seat of his vehicle. He extended the handgun forward, out his driver's side window, and fired one round at Tpr. Cook seven seconds after the traffic stop began. Tpr. Cook saw the firearm as it was being presented and immediately moved toward cover to



*This aerial view of the outdoor firing range was taken May 6, 2020.*

*On December 23, 2020, a ribbon cutting ceremony marked the official opening of the Patrol's outdoor firing range.*



his left, the violator's right. Tpr. Cook returned accurate fire as he moved to a position of cover near Tpr. Dodson's patrol vehicle. The violator fired four additional shots through his own windshield at Tpr. Cook, as he was moving toward cover. One of the .44-caliber rounds struck Tpr. Cook's right hip and caused a minor injury.

Tpr. Dodson and the Jasper County deputy arrived as the shots were being fired. They both returned fire toward the suspect from positions of cover. Tpr. Cook remained calm, reloaded his weapon, checked the seriousness of his wound, and assisted the other officers as they approached the violator. Officers on scene rendered aid to the suspect until an ambulance arrived. The suspect died at the scene.

Nearly 100 Patrol personnel assisted with the Super Bowl Victory Parade in downtown Kansas City celebrating the Chief's win over the San Francisco 49ers. Troopers handled governor security, traffic control, operations center overwatch, and

undercover surveillance; reunited lost children with their parents; and provided first aid and a presence during the event. Communications personnel ensured our troopers could communicate to one another and with the nearly 20 other agencies helping with this event. Troopers and civilians from Troops A, D, F, H, and Division of Drug and Crime Control, Communications Division, and Governor's Security Division were part of the detail.

On March 13, in response to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19), Gov. Mike Parson signed Executive Order 20-02 declaring a state of emergency in Missouri. This public health emergency affected all areas of government, including the Patrol.

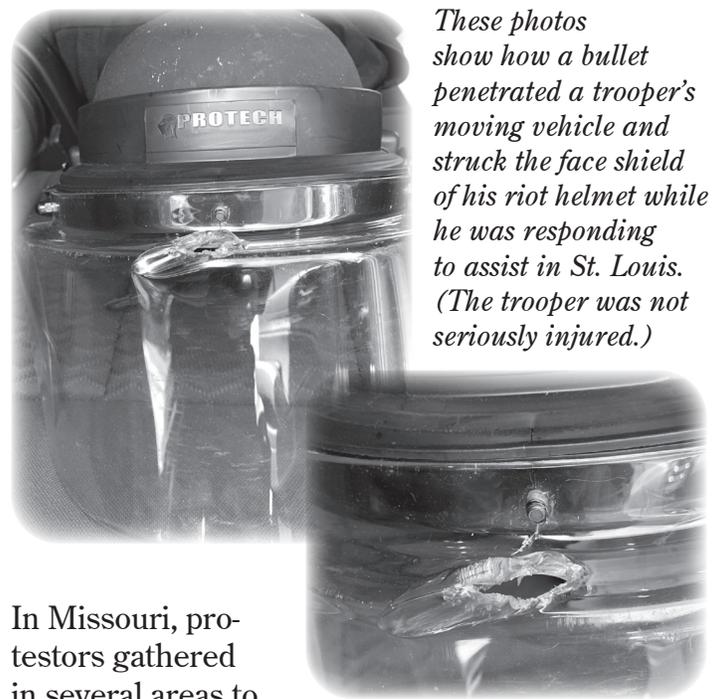
- All Missouri gaming properties were ordered closed. Thus, Gaming Division members were reassigned temporarily to road duty and the Division of Drug and Crime Control.

- On March 20, members were directed to wear their Class C uniform while patrolling and issued personal protective equipment. (They returned to the Class B uniform on May 22.)
- On Tuesday, March 17, driver road testing was suspended at all locations. On March 23, the suspension would also include written testing, as well as salvage inspections and school bus inspections. Beginning April 27, written tests for commercial driver licenses for applicants with essential needs were resumed. All classifications of written driver examinations resumed May 4; all classifications of road tests resumed May 11. Some DE Stations scheduled road tests by appointment to help manage the demand.
- CJIS Division configured and deployed an additional 154 laptops for employees who had the ability to perform their duties from home. Teleworking became common and tools such as Jabber and Webex enabled employees to convene in a safe way.
- The Aircraft Division assisted SEMA by transporting shipments of Remdesivir, an experimental treatment for COVID-19 patients, to several Missouri hospitals. Both helicopter and fixed-wing aircraft were used.

Col. Olson answered a media inquiry by pointing out that emergencies of all kinds still occur during a public health emergency.

Missouri began the process of re-opening in mid-May. However, social distancing, hand sanitizer, face masks, and teleworking remained part of the MSHP workplace throughout 2020.

Protests erupted throughout the nation in response to the death of George Floyd in Minnesota.



*These photos show how a bullet penetrated a trooper's moving vehicle and struck the face shield of his riot helmet while he was responding to assist in St. Louis. (The trooper was not seriously injured.)*

In Missouri, protestors gathered in several areas to voice their dismay and call for police reform. Troopers were sent to St. Louis, Kansas City, and the Missouri Capitol, and protected the protestors' rights and kept interstates open.

The 109th Recruit Class graduated June 26. To ensure proper social distancing during the graduation, the guest list for attendees was reduced to recruit families, staff members, and only those troop commanders being assigned new troopers. The event was broadcast via Facebook Live, but was closed to other personnel and the public. Twenty-one troopers said their Oath of Office.

In an unprecedented display of transparency, the colonel directed the Research and Development Division to manage the creation of the "Show-Me Integrity" portal. The Criminal Justice Information Services, Public Information and Education, and many other divisions were actively involved in the project. The public would enter

## SHOW-ME INTEGRITY

The Missouri State Highway Patrol is committed to accreditation, core values, community policing, service, and protection.

EXPLORE

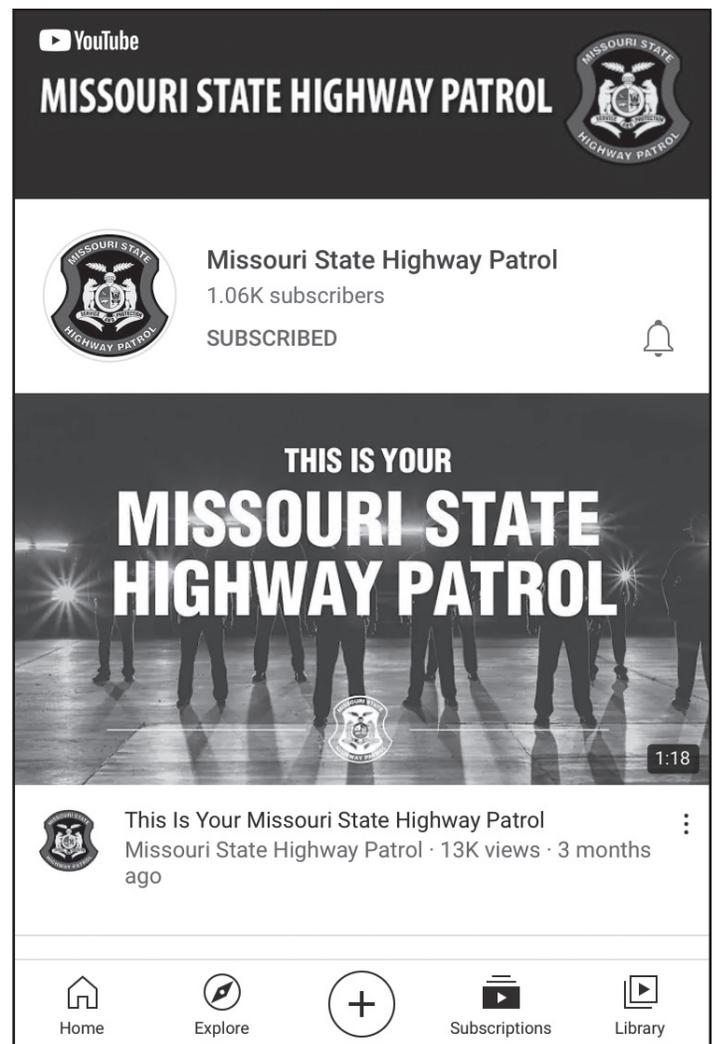


the portal through the Patrol's homepage to gain access to general orders and policy; an in-depth look at training, use of force, and pursuits; relevant statistics and analysis regarding troopers and the duties they perform; and both trooper and civilian career opportunities within the agency. One specific area provides the mission of the Patrol's Professional Standards Division regarding allegations of misconduct and employee commendations.

In addition to the portal, the Public Information and Education Division developed a Use Of Force/Accountability symposium directed at Missouri legislators, community leaders, and activists. Several members from General Headquarters hosted the symposiums throughout the state. The symposium included an open discussion of Patrol policy, an interactive use of force experience using the MILO firearms training system, a stop and approach exercise with role-players, presentations about the Professional Standards Division and Division of Drug and Crime Control, and a roundtable discussion.

The Patrol launched its YouTube channel on November 9 with a video titled, "This Is Your Missouri State Highway Patrol." The channel would host original videos to educate the public about traffic safety, the agency and the services it provides, and show the wide variety of career opportunities with the Patrol.

On December 2, the Crime Laboratory Division's addition was officially "opened" with a ribbon cutting ceremony. The project took approximately one year to complete and cost approximately \$2.7 million. The state-of-the-art addition is expected to increase efficiency, improve processes, modernize the laboratory, and assist in meeting demand. Twenty employees would occupy the new DNA Section workspace.



*Gov. Mike Parson cuts the ribbon to signify the completion of the Crime Laboratory Division's building expansion project. Pictured with the governor are (l to r) Sen. Dan Hegeman, Director Brian K. Hoey (Q/CLD), and Rep. Sara Walsh.*

# 2021

The coronavirus pandemic continued to affect Patrol operations regarding social distancing, teleworking, and the use of Webex for meetings. However, this did not affect the professional services provided by Patrol employees.

The Academy commissioned 31 troopers (110th Recruit Class) on January 20. Again, the event was broadcast via Facebook Live. No guests were allowed at the event.

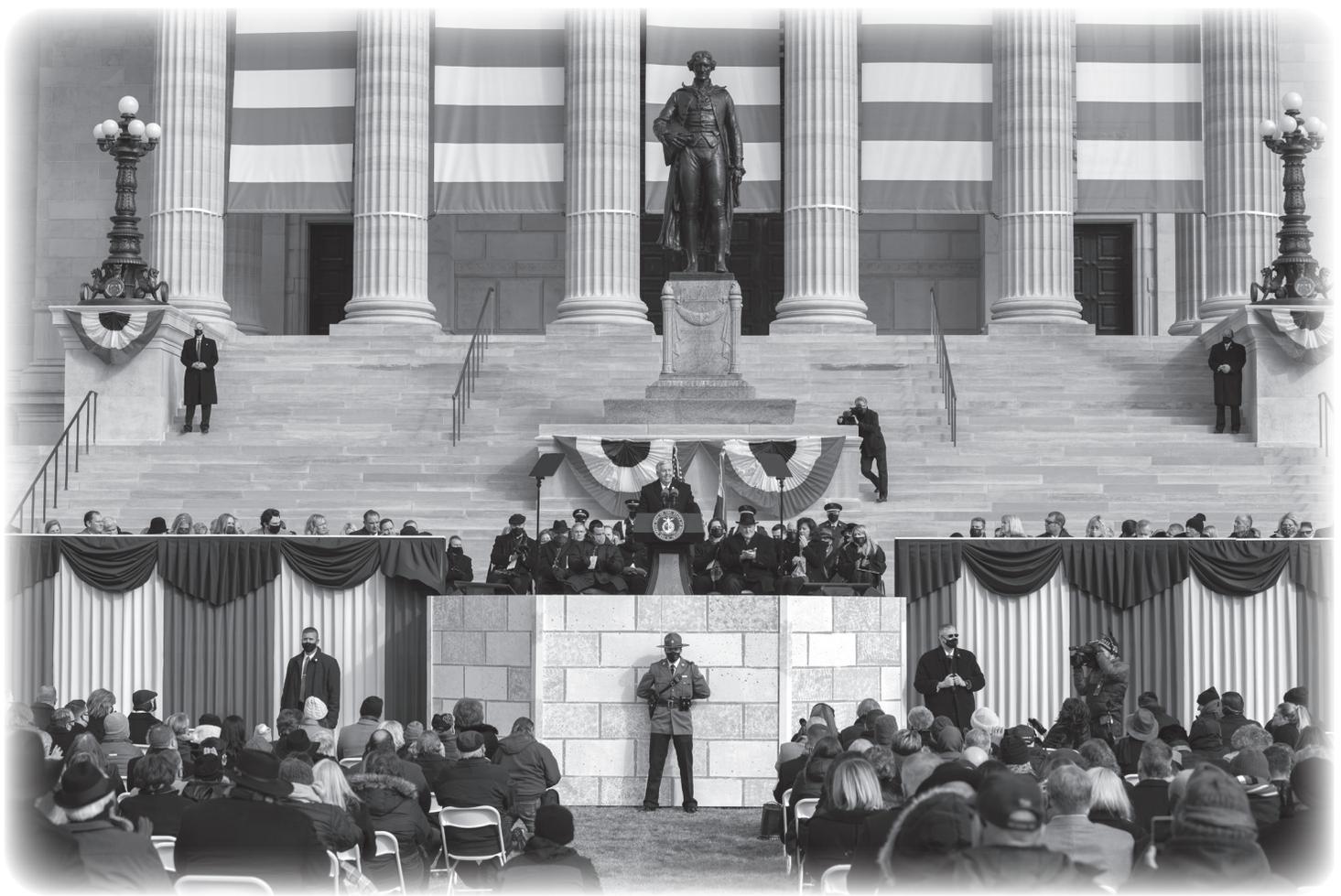
The Missouri State Highway Patrol provided a detail of 177 members and eight uniformed civilian employees for Governor Michael L. Parson's inauguration on January 11, 2021. Academy, Supply, and public information personnel provided support to the detail. The coronavirus prevented the traditional parade and ball; however, the Patrol provided security during the inauguration, at

a prayer service in Bolivar, MO, and two private gatherings in the Jefferson City area.

The Patrol provided 40 members to assist with security during President Joe Biden's Inauguration in Washington, D.C., on January 20. Missouri's troopers were assigned along the motorcade route.

The coronavirus made it impossible to hold an annual awards banquet in 2020. Thus, it was decided that awards for both 2019 and 2020 would be presented in April 2021. Trooper Keaton L. Ebersold, Trooper Nicholas A. Regan, Trooper Derek E. Rogers, Corporal Jason C. Kuessner, and Sergeant Shawn M. Dougherty accepted 2019 Valor Awards. Trooper Matthew R. Cook accepted a 2020 Valor Award. (See pages 159-160.)

April 24, 2021 marked 90 years since Senate Bill 36 was signed into law, establishing the Missouri State Highway Patrol.



*Members of the Patrol kept watch during Gov. Mike Parson's inauguration on January 11. clockwise from Thomas Jefferson's statue: Capt. Dusty L. Hoffman (Q/GSD), Sgt. Jason E. Riggs (Q/GSD), Tpr. Catherine M. Bishop (C), Cpl. J. Wes Collins (Q/GSD), and Lt. Thad M. Wilson (Q/GSD).*